

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-01 /004 R

66612

DRAFTED BY:IO/UNP:RREIS

APPROVED BY:IO:RREIS

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R R 080039Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL OECD CAPITALS

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029298

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 297 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO SANTIAGO,
OECD PARIS & GENEVA DATED 29 JANUARY 1975:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 297

DEPT PASS ALL OECD CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, EGEN

SUBJ: APPOINTMENT OF SOMAVIA AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
CENTER ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS (NMCS)

1. SYG'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT PROHASKA CALLED AMB SCHAUFLE
JAN 29 TO GET US VIEWS ON POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF JUAN
SOMAVIA AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FO CENTER ON MULTINATIONAL
CORPORATIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT VENEZUELA AND MEXICO
SUPPORTED THE NOMINATION AND THAT J. IRWIN MILLER, CHAIRMAN
OF CUMMINS ENGINE CO. WHO WAS ONE OF US REPS IN GROUP OF
EMINENT PERONS, ALSO SUPPORTS NOMINATION.

2. PROHASKA SAID THAT SOMAVIA HAD INFORMED HIM THAT THERE
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WAS SOME US SUPPORT FOR HIS APPOINTMENT ALTHOUGH TREASURY

DEPT WAS OPPOSED. SOMAVIA INSISTS HIS ASSOCIATION WITH ALLENDE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT NECESSARILY A REFLECTION OF HIS OWN VIEWS AND THAT HE COULD BE DEPENDED UPON TO BE NON-PARTISAN IN FILLING THIS POSITION.

3. SCHAUFLELE SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME WE HAD BEEN APPROACHED DIRECTLY BY UN SECRETARIAT ON THIS POSITION AND HE WOULD BE GLAD TO PASS IT ON TO WASHINGTON. HOWEVER, HE INFORMED PROHASKA OF HIS IMPRESSION THAT US WAS OPPOSED TO APPOINTMENT OF SOMAVIA.

4. SOMAVIA HIMSELF CALLED ON AMB FERGUSON JAN 28 SEEKING US SUPPORT. HE SAID HE WAS AWARE OF US OPPOSITION BUT ASSUMED THIS WAS BASED ON HIS ASSOCIATION WITH ALLENDE GOVERNMENT. FERGUSON TOLD HIM THAT, ON THE CONTRARY, US WAS OPPOSED TO HIS APPOINTMENT BECAUSE OF HIS ADVERSE CONTRIBUTION TO REPORT OF GROUP OF EMINENT PERSONS. SOMAVIA SHOWED FERGUSON LETTER FROM MILLER WHICH IS BLAND AND DOES NOT RECOMMEND HIM FOR THIS POSITION. BENNETT UNQTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INFORMATION CENTERS, MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchandr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE029298
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNP:RREIS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750047-0139
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750259/aaaacbkj.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by buchandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPOINTMENT OF SOMAVIA AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CENTER ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS (NMCS)
TAGS: EGEN, PORG, UN, (PROHASKA), (SCHAUFLE), (SOMAVIA, JUAN)
To: OECD POSTS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006